



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 5531

LCO No. 1260

01260_____GAE

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING "PUBLIC DECLARATION" BY CANDIDATES
AND CREATING A SEPARATE PETITIONING PROCESS FOR MINOR
PARTY AND PETITIONING CANDIDATES TO RECEIVE A GRANT
UNDER THE CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 9-604 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after*
4 *January 1, 2013*):

5 (c) (1) The chairman of a political committee formed to support a
6 single candidate for public office shall, not later than seven days after
7 filing a statement of organization with the proper authority under
8 section 9-603, send the candidate a notice, by certified mail, of such
9 filing. If a candidate [(1)] (A) does not, within fourteen days after
10 receiving such notice, disavow such committee, in writing, to the
11 proper authority under section 9-603, or [(2)] (B) disavows such
12 committee within such period, but, at any time before such disavowal,
13 accepts funds from the committee for his campaign, such committee

14 shall be deemed to have been authorized by such candidate and shall
 15 constitute a candidate committee for the purposes of this chapter. No
 16 candidate shall establish, agree to or assist in establishing, or give his
 17 consent or authorization to establishing a committee other than a
 18 single candidate committee to promote his candidacy for any public
 19 office except that a candidate may establish an exploratory committee.
 20 The candidate shall designate on the statement of organization for the
 21 exploratory committee the type of office to which the candidate is
 22 determining whether to seek nomination or election, as follows: [(A)]
 23 (i) The General Assembly, [(B)] (ii) a state office, or [(C)] (iii) any other
 24 public office. The candidate may also certify on the statement of
 25 organization that the candidate will not be a candidate for the office of
 26 state representative. Not later than fifteen days after a public
 27 declaration by the candidate of the candidate's intention to seek
 28 nomination or election to a particular public office, as described in
 29 subdivisions (2) to (5), inclusive, of this subsection, the candidate shall
 30 form a single candidate committee, except that in the case of a
 31 candidate establishing an exploratory committee for purposes
 32 including aiding or promoting the candidate's candidacy for
 33 nomination or election to the General Assembly or a state office, the
 34 candidate shall form a single candidate committee not later than fifteen
 35 days after the date that the campaign treasurer of such exploratory
 36 committee is required to file a notice of intent to dissolve the
 37 committee under subsection (f) of section 9-608, as amended by this
 38 act. As used in this subsection, "state office" has the same meaning as
 39 provided in subsection (e) of section 9-610.

40 (2) A public declaration by the candidate of the candidate's intention
 41 to seek nomination or election to a particular public office shall be in
 42 the form of an announcement, made verbally or in writing, by the
 43 candidate or an agent of the candidate. In order for the announcement
 44 to be such a public declaration, (A) the candidate or agent shall make
 45 such announcement to members of the public, and (B) a reasonable
 46 person hearing or reading such announcement would determine that
 47 the announcement expresses an intention to seek a particular office, as

48 stated in the announcement. If the candidate or agent of the candidate
49 announces the candidate's intention to seek nomination or election to a
50 particular public office to a group comprised only of individuals
51 volunteering their time to the candidate's campaign or committee
52 workers working on behalf of the candidate or immediate family
53 members of the candidate, such announcement shall not be a public
54 declaration by the candidate of the candidate's intention to seek
55 nomination or election to a particular public office.

56 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a declaration
57 by a candidate to a town committee of the candidate's intention to seek
58 nomination or election to a particular public office shall not constitute
59 a public declaration.

60 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, in the case of
61 a candidate attempting to acquire signatures to petition for nomination
62 for elective office pursuant to subpart C of part III of chapter 153, such
63 candidate or an agent of such candidate may announce the candidate's
64 desire to seek a particular office and such announcement shall not
65 constitute a public declaration, provided such announcement is made
66 as part of an effort to acquire the number of signatures required under
67 section 9-453d and such announcement, if in a verbal form, is made
68 directly to a potential signator of the petition, or, if in a written form,
69 consists of literature handed by the candidate or agent to such a
70 potential signator.

71 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, in the case of
72 a candidate attempting to acquire a signature on a grant petition under
73 section 5 of this act, unless such candidate is simultaneously trying to
74 acquire from the same potential signator a signature on the candidate's
75 petition for nomination pursuant to subpart C of part III of chapter
76 153, such candidate shall be making a public declaration of the
77 candidate's intention to seek a nomination or election to a particular
78 office under this section.

79 Sec. 2. Subsection (f) of section 9-608 of the 2012 supplement to the

80 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
81 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections*
82 *held on or after January 1, 2013*):

83 (f) If an exploratory committee has been established by a candidate
84 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-604, as amended by this act, the
85 campaign treasurer of the committee shall file a notice of intent to
86 dissolve it with the appropriate authority not later than fifteen days
87 after the candidate's declaration of intent to seek nomination or
88 election to a particular public office, except that in the case of an
89 exploratory committee established by a candidate for purposes that
90 include aiding or promoting the candidate's candidacy for nomination
91 or election to the General Assembly or a state office, the campaign
92 treasurer of the committee shall file such notice of intent to dissolve the
93 committee not later than fifteen days after the earlier of: (1) The
94 candidate's public declaration of intent to seek nomination or election
95 to a particular public office, as described in subsection (c) of section 9-
96 604, as amended by this act, (2) the candidate's endorsement at a
97 convention, caucus or town committee meeting, or (3) the candidate's
98 filing of a candidacy for nomination under section 9-400 or 9-405. The
99 campaign treasurer shall also file a statement identifying all
100 contributions received or expenditures made by the exploratory
101 committee since the previous statement and the balance on hand or
102 deficit, as the case may be. In the event of a surplus, the campaign
103 treasurer shall, not later than the filing of the statement, distribute the
104 surplus to the candidate committee established pursuant to said
105 section, except that (A) in the case of a surplus of an exploratory
106 committee established by a candidate who intends to be a participating
107 candidate, as defined in section 9-703, in the Citizens' Election
108 Program, the campaign treasurer may distribute to the candidate
109 committee only that portion of such surplus that is attributable to
110 contributions that meet the criteria for qualifying contributions for the
111 candidate committee under section 9-704 and shall distribute the
112 remainder of such surplus to the Citizens' Election Fund established in
113 section 9-701, and (B) in the case of a surplus of an exploratory

114 committee established for nomination or election to an office other
115 than the General Assembly or a state office (i) the campaign treasurer
116 may only distribute to the candidate committee for nomination or
117 election to the General Assembly or state office of such candidate that
118 portion of such surplus which is in excess of the total contributions
119 which the exploratory committee received from lobbyists or political
120 committees established by lobbyists, during any period in which the
121 prohibitions in subsection (e) of section 9-610 apply, and (ii) any
122 remaining amount shall be returned to all such lobbyists and political
123 committees established by or on behalf of lobbyists, on a prorated basis
124 of contribution, or distributed to any charitable organization which is a
125 tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
126 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
127 revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended. If the
128 candidate decides not to seek nomination or election to any office, the
129 campaign treasurer shall, [within] not later than fifteen days after such
130 decision, comply with the provisions of this subsection and distribute
131 any surplus in the manner provided by this section for political
132 committees other than those formed for ongoing political activities,
133 except that if the surplus is from an exploratory committee established
134 by the State Treasurer, any portion of the surplus that is received from
135 a principal of an investment services firm or a political committee
136 established by such firm shall be returned to such principal or
137 committee on a prorated basis of contribution. In the event of a deficit,
138 the campaign treasurer shall file a statement thirty days after the
139 decision or declaration with the proper authority and, thereafter, on
140 the seventh day of each month following if on the last day of the
141 previous month there was an increase or decrease in such deficit in
142 excess of five hundred dollars from that reported on the last statement
143 filed. The campaign treasurer shall file supplemental statements until
144 the deficit is eliminated. If the exploratory committee does not have a
145 surplus or deficit, the statement filed after the candidate's declaration
146 or decision shall be the last required statement. If a candidate certifies
147 on the statement of organization for the exploratory committee

148 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-604, as amended by this act, that
 149 the candidate will not be a candidate for the office of state
 150 representative and subsequently establishes a candidate committee for
 151 the office of state representative, the campaign treasurer of the
 152 candidate committee shall pay to the State Treasurer, for deposit in the
 153 General Fund, an amount equal to the portion of any contribution
 154 received by said exploratory committee that exceeded two hundred
 155 fifty dollars. As used in this subsection, "principal of an investment
 156 services firm" has the meaning set forth in subsection (f) of section 9-
 157 612 and "state office" has the same meaning set forth in subsection (e)
 158 of section 9-610.

159 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 9-705 of the general statutes is
 160 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
 161 *January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after*
 162 *January 1, 2013*):

163 (c) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of
 164 this section, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible minor
 165 party candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
 166 Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State
 167 Treasurer shall be eligible to receive a grant from the fund for the
 168 general election campaign if the candidate of the same minor party for
 169 the same office at the last preceding regular election received at least
 170 ten per cent of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for
 171 said office at said election. The amount of the grant shall be one-third
 172 of the amount of the general election campaign grant under subsection
 173 (a) or (b) of this section for a candidate for the same office, provided
 174 (A) if the candidate of the same minor party for the same office at the
 175 last preceding regular election received at least fifteen per cent of the
 176 whole number of votes cast for all candidates for said office at said
 177 election, the amount of the grant shall be two-thirds of the amount of
 178 the general election campaign grant under subsection (a) or (b) of this
 179 section for a candidate for the same office, (B) if the candidate of the
 180 same minor party for the same office at the last preceding regular

181 election received at least twenty per cent of the whole number of votes
182 cast for all candidates for said office at said election, the amount of the
183 grant shall be the same as the amount of the general election campaign
184 grant under subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a candidate for the
185 same office, and (C) in the case of an election held in 2014, or
186 thereafter, said amounts shall be adjusted under subsection (d) of this
187 section.

188 [(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this
189 section, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible petitioning
190 party candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
191 Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State
192 Treasurer shall be eligible to receive a grant from the fund for the
193 general election campaign if said candidate's nominating petition has
194 been signed by a number of qualified electors equal to at least ten per
195 cent of the whole number of votes cast for the same office at the last
196 preceding regular election. The amount of the grant shall be one-third
197 of the amount of the general election campaign grant under subsection
198 (a) or (b) of this section for a candidate for the same office, provided
199 (A) if said candidate's nominating petition has been signed by a
200 number of qualified electors equal to at least fifteen per cent of the
201 whole number of votes cast for the same office at the last preceding
202 regular election, the amount of the grant shall be two-thirds of the
203 amount of the general election campaign grant under subsection (a) or
204 (b) of this section for a candidate for the same office, (B) if said
205 candidate's nominating petition has been signed by a number of
206 qualified electors equal to at least twenty per cent of the whole number
207 of votes cast for the same office at the last preceding regular election,
208 the amount of the grant shall be the same as the amount of the general
209 election campaign grant under subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a
210 candidate for the same office, and (C) in the case of an election held in
211 2014, or thereafter, said amounts shall be adjusted under subsection (d)
212 of this section.]

213 (2) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of

214 this section, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible
215 petitioning party candidate or an eligible minor party candidate for the
216 office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State
217 Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State Treasurer shall be eligible
218 to receive a grant from the fund for the general election campaign if
219 such candidate petitions for a grant under section 5 of this act and such
220 petition has been signed by a number of qualified electors equal to at
221 least ten per cent of the whole number of votes cast for the same office
222 at the last preceding regular election. The amount of the grant shall be
223 one-third of the amount of the general election campaign grant under
224 subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a candidate for the same office,
225 provided (i) if said candidate's petition has been signed by a number of
226 qualified electors equal to at least fifteen per cent of the whole number
227 of votes cast for the same office at the last preceding regular election,
228 the amount of the grant shall be two-thirds of the amount of the
229 general election campaign grant under subsection (a) or (b) of this
230 section for a candidate for the same office, (ii) if said candidate's
231 petition has been signed by a number of qualified electors equal to at
232 least twenty per cent of the whole number of votes cast for the same
233 office at the last preceding regular election, the amount of the grant
234 shall be the same as the amount of the general election campaign grant
235 under subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a candidate for the same
236 office, and (iii) in the case of an election held in 2014, or thereafter, said
237 amounts shall be adjusted under subsection (d) of this section.

238 (B) In the case of an eligible minor party candidate receiving a
239 partial grant under subdivision (1) of this section, such candidate may
240 also receive a partial grant under this subdivision, provided the sum of
241 such grants for any such candidate shall not exceed one hundred per
242 cent of the amount of the general election campaign grant under
243 subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a major party candidate for the
244 same office.

245 (3) In addition to the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
246 subsection, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible petitioning

247 party candidate and the qualified candidate committee of an eligible
248 minor party candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
249 Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State
250 Treasurer shall be eligible to receive a supplemental grant from the
251 fund after the general election if the treasurer of such candidate
252 committee reports a deficit in the first statement filed after the general
253 election, pursuant to section 9-608, as amended by this act, and such
254 candidate received a greater percentage of the whole number of votes
255 cast for all candidates for said office at said election than the
256 percentage of votes utilized by such candidate to obtain a general
257 election campaign grant described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this
258 subsection. The amount of such supplemental grant shall be calculated
259 as follows:

260 (A) In the case of any such candidate who receives more than ten
261 per cent, but not more than fifteen per cent, of the whole number of
262 votes cast for all candidates for said office at said election, the grant
263 shall be the product of (i) a fraction in which the numerator is the
264 difference between the percentage of such whole number of votes
265 received by such candidate and ten per cent and the denominator is
266 ten, and (ii) two-thirds of the amount of the general election campaign
267 grant under subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a major party
268 candidate for the same office.

269 (B) In the case of any such candidate who receives more than fifteen
270 per cent, but less than twenty per cent, of the whole number of votes
271 cast for all candidates for said office at said election, the grant shall be
272 the product of (i) a fraction in which the numerator is the difference
273 between the percentage of such whole number of votes received by
274 such candidate and fifteen per cent and the denominator is five, and
275 (ii) one-third of the amount of the general election campaign grant
276 under subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a major party candidate
277 for the same office.

278 (C) In the case of any such candidate who receives twenty per cent

279 or more of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for said
280 office at said election, the grant shall be the difference between the
281 amount of the general election campaign grant received by any such
282 candidate and one hundred per cent of the amount of the general
283 election campaign grant under subsection (a) or (b) of this section for a
284 major party candidate for the same office.

285 [(C)] (D) The sum of the general election campaign grant received
286 by any such candidate and a supplemental grant under this
287 subdivision shall not exceed one hundred per cent of the amount of the
288 general election campaign grant under subsection (a) or (b) of this
289 section for a major party candidate for the same office.

290 Sec. 4. Subsection (g) of section 9-705 of the general statutes is
291 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
292 *January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after*
293 *January 1, 2013*):

294 (g) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) of
295 this section, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible minor
296 party candidate for the office of state senator or state representative
297 shall be eligible to receive a grant from the fund for the general
298 election campaign if the candidate of the same minor party for the
299 same office at the last preceding regular election received at least ten
300 per cent of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for said
301 office at said election. The amount of the grant shall be one-third of the
302 amount of the general election campaign grant under subsection (e) or
303 (f) of this section for a candidate for the same office, provided (A) if the
304 candidate of the same minor party for the same office at the last
305 preceding regular election received at least fifteen per cent of the
306 whole number of votes cast for all candidates for said office at said
307 election, the amount of the grant shall be two-thirds of the amount of
308 the general election campaign grant under subsection (e) or (f) of this
309 section for a candidate for the same office, (B) if the candidate of the
310 same minor party for the same office at the last preceding regular

311 election received at least twenty per cent of the whole number of votes
312 cast for all candidates for said office at said election, the amount of the
313 grant shall be the same as the amount of the general election campaign
314 grant under subsection (e) or (f) of this section for a candidate for the
315 same office, and (C) in the case of an election held in 2010, or
316 thereafter, said amounts shall be adjusted under subsection (h) of this
317 section.

318 [(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) of this
319 section, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible petitioning
320 party candidate for the office of state senator or state representative
321 shall be eligible to receive a grant from the fund for the general
322 election campaign if said candidate's nominating petition has been
323 signed by a number of qualified electors equal to at least ten per cent of
324 the whole number of votes cast for the same office at the last preceding
325 regular election. The amount of the grant shall be one-third of the
326 amount of the general election campaign grant under subsection (e) or
327 (f) of this section for a candidate for the same office, provided (A) if
328 said candidate's nominating petition has been signed by a number of
329 qualified electors equal to at least fifteen per cent of the whole number
330 of votes cast for the same office at the last preceding regular election,
331 the amount of the grant shall be two-thirds of the amount of the
332 general election campaign grant under subsection (e) or (f) of this
333 section for a candidate for the same office, (B) if said candidate's
334 nominating petition has been signed by a number of qualified electors
335 equal to at least twenty per cent of the whole number of votes cast for
336 the same office at the last preceding regular election, the amount of the
337 grant shall be the same as the amount of the general election campaign
338 grant under subsection (e) or (f) of this section for a candidate for the
339 same office, and (C) in the case of an election held in 2010, or
340 thereafter, said amounts shall be adjusted under subsection (h) of this
341 section.]

342 (2) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) of
343 this section, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible

344 petitioning party candidate or an eligible minor party candidate for the
345 office of state senator or state representative shall be eligible to receive
346 a grant from the fund for the general election campaign if such
347 candidate petitions for a grant under section 5 of this act and such
348 petition has been signed by a number of qualified electors equal to at
349 least ten per cent of the whole number of votes cast for the same office
350 at the last preceding regular election. The amount of the grant shall be
351 one-third of the amount of the general election campaign grant under
352 subsection (e) or (f) of this section for a candidate for the same office,
353 provided (i) if said candidate's petition has been signed by a number of
354 qualified electors equal to at least fifteen per cent of the whole number
355 of votes cast for the same office at the last preceding regular election,
356 the amount of the grant shall be two-thirds of the amount of the
357 general election campaign grant under subsection (e) or (f) of this
358 section for a candidate for the same office, (ii) if said candidate's
359 petition has been signed by a number of qualified electors equal to at
360 least twenty per cent of the whole number of votes cast for the same
361 office at the last preceding regular election, the amount of the grant
362 shall be the same as the amount of the general election campaign grant
363 under subsection (e) or (f) of this section for a candidate for the same
364 office, and (iii) in the case of an election held in 2014, or thereafter, said
365 amounts shall be adjusted under subsection (d) of this section.

366 (B) In the case of an eligible minor party candidate receiving a
367 partial grant under subdivision (1) of this subsection, such candidate
368 may also receive a partial grant under this subdivision.

369 (3) In addition to the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
370 subsection, the qualified candidate committee of an eligible petitioning
371 party candidate and the qualified candidate committee of an eligible
372 minor party candidate for the office of state senator or state
373 representative shall be eligible to receive a supplemental grant from
374 the fund after the general election if the treasurer of such candidate
375 committee reports a deficit in the first statement filed after the general
376 election, pursuant to section 9-608, as amended by this act, and such

377 candidate received a greater percentage of the whole number of votes
378 cast for all candidates for said office at said election than the
379 percentage of votes utilized by such candidate to obtain a general
380 election campaign grant described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this
381 subsection. The amount of such supplemental grant shall be calculated
382 as follows:

383 (A) In the case of any such candidate who receives more than ten
384 per cent, but less than fifteen per cent, of the whole number of votes
385 cast for all candidates for said office at said election, the grant shall be
386 the product of (i) a fraction in which the numerator is the difference
387 between the percentage of such whole number of votes received by
388 such candidate and ten per cent and the denominator is ten, and (ii)
389 two-thirds of the amount of the general election campaign grant under
390 subsection (e) or (f) of this section for a major party candidate for the
391 same office.

392 (B) In the case of any such candidate who receives more than fifteen
393 per cent, but less than twenty per cent, of the whole number of votes
394 cast for all candidates for said office at said election, the grant shall be
395 the product of (i) a fraction in which the numerator is the difference
396 between the percentage of such whole number of votes received by
397 such candidate and fifteen per cent and the denominator is five, and
398 (ii) one-third of the amount of the general election campaign grant
399 under subsection (e) or (f) of this section for a major party candidate
400 for the same office.

401 (C) In the case of any such candidate who receives twenty per cent
402 or more of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for said
403 office at said election, the grant shall be the difference between the
404 amount of the general election campaign grant received by any such
405 candidate and one hundred per cent of the amount of the general
406 election campaign grant under subsection (e) or (f) of this section for a
407 major party candidate for the same office.

408 ~~[(C)]~~ (D) The sum of the general election campaign grant received

409 by any such candidate and a supplemental grant under this
410 subdivision shall not exceed one hundred per cent of the amount of the
411 general election campaign grant under subsection (e) or (f) of this
412 section for a major party candidate for the same office.

413 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and*
414 *elections held on or after January 1, 2013*) (a) Each petition for a grant
415 from the Citizens' Election Fund shall be on a form prescribed and
416 provided by the Secretary of the State. Such form shall include, at the
417 top of the form and in bold print, the following:

418 WARNING

419 IT IS A CRIME TO SIGN THIS PETITION

420 IN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON

421 WITHOUT LEGAL AUTHORITY TO DO SO

422 AND YOU MAY NOT SIGN THIS PETITION

423 IF YOU ARE NOT AN ELECTOR.

424 Such form shall provide lines for the signatures, street addresses,
425 dates of birth and the printing of the names of signators. A signator
426 shall print the signator's name on said line following the signing of the
427 signator's name. Before issuing a petition form, the secretary shall,
428 above the space provided for signatures, type or print the name and
429 address of the candidate, that the purpose of the petition is to acquire
430 signatures necessary to qualify for a grant from the Citizens' Election
431 Fund and the date of the election for which the grant is sought. The
432 secretary shall give to any person requesting such form one or more
433 petition pages, suitable for duplication, as the secretary deems
434 necessary. If the person is requesting the form on behalf of an indigent
435 candidate, the secretary shall give the person the number of original
436 pages that the person requests or the number which the secretary
437 deems sufficient. An original petition page may be duplicated by or on

438 behalf of the candidate listed on the page and signatures may be
439 obtained on such duplicates. The duplicates shall be filed in the same
440 manner and shall be subject to the same requirements as original
441 petition pages.

442 (b) The Secretary of the State shall not issue any petition forms for a
443 grant from the Citizens' Election Fund for a regular election to be held
444 in any year prior to the first business day of such year. The secretary
445 shall not issue any such petition forms unless the person requesting
446 the same makes a written application therefor, which application shall
447 contain the following: (1) The name or names of the candidates to
448 appear on such petition, compared by the town clerk of the town of
449 residence of each candidate with the candidate's name as it appears on
450 the last-completed registry list of such town, and verified and
451 corrected by such town clerk or, in the case of a newly admitted elector
452 whose name does not appear on the last-completed registry list, the
453 town clerk shall compare the elector's name as it appears on the
454 elector's application for admission and verify and correct it
455 accordingly; (2) a signed statement by each such candidate that the
456 candidate consents to the placing of the candidate's name on such
457 petition; and (3) the party designation, if any. An applicant for petition
458 forms who does not wish to specify a party designation shall so
459 indicate on the application for such forms and the application, if so
460 marked, shall not be amended in this respect. No application shall
461 contain any party designation unless a reservation of such party
462 designation with the secretary is in effect for the office included in the
463 application or unless the party designation is the same as the name of a
464 minor party which is qualified for a different office on the same ballot
465 as the office included in the application. The secretary shall not issue
466 such forms (A) unless the application for forms in behalf of Governor
467 or Lieutenant Governor is accompanied by the name of the candidate
468 for the other office and includes the consent of both such candidates;
469 (B) if petition forms have previously been issued on behalf of the same
470 candidate for the same office unless the candidate files a written
471 statement of withdrawal of his previous candidacy with the secretary;

472 and (C) unless the application meets the requirements of this section.

473 (c) Each circulator of a petition form for a grant from the Citizens'
474 Election Fund shall be a United States citizen, at least eighteen years of
475 age and a resident of a town in this state and shall not be on parole for
476 conviction of a felony. Any individual proposed as a candidate may
477 serve as circulator of the pages of such grant petition.

478 (d) Before any signatures may be obtained on a signatures page of a
479 petition form for a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund, above the
480 space provided for signatures shall be indicated the party designation,
481 if any, the name and address of the candidate, that the purpose of the
482 petition is to acquire signatures necessary to qualify for a grant from
483 the Citizens' Election Fund, the date of the election for which the grant
484 is sought and the town and district, if such is the case, in which such
485 petition page is to be circulated. Such indication may not be altered or
486 amended after any person has signed the page. Each page of the grant
487 petition shall contain the names and street addresses of the signers. No
488 page of a grant petition shall be certified by the clerks of two or more
489 towns and signatures on any page so certified shall not be counted by
490 the Secretary of the State.

491 (e) Each page of a petition for a grant from the Citizens' Election
492 Fund for a campaign in a regular election shall be submitted to the
493 appropriate town clerk or to the Secretary of the State not later than
494 four o'clock p.m. on the ninetieth day preceding the day of the regular
495 election.

496 (f) Each page of a grant petition shall be so submitted either (1) to
497 the town clerk of the town in which the signers reside, or (2) to the
498 Secretary of the State, in which case the Secretary of the State shall
499 submit the petition pages to the appropriate town clerk for the purpose
500 of certifying the signatures on such pages.

501 (g) On such last day for submitting such grant petition pages, in
502 each town in which an election is to be held, the office of the town

503 clerk shall open not later than one o'clock p.m. and remain open until
504 at least four o'clock p.m., and the town clerk or the assistant town clerk
505 shall be present.

506 (h) Any town clerk receiving any page of a grant petition under this
507 section shall complete such certifications as specified in this section
508 and shall file each such grant petition page with the Secretary of the
509 State within two weeks after it was so submitted to the clerk. Any such
510 town clerk who fails to so file such petition pages with the Secretary of
511 the State by the time required shall pay a late filing fee of fifty dollars.

512 (i) The Secretary of the State may not count for purposes of
513 determining compliance with the number of signatures required by
514 section 9-705 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the
515 signatures certified by the town clerk on any petition page filed under
516 this section if: (1) The name of the candidate, the candidate's address or
517 the party designation, if any, has been omitted from the face of the
518 petition; (2) the page does not contain a statement by the circulator as
519 to the residency in this state and eligibility of the circulator and
520 authenticity of the signatures on the petition as required by this section
521 or upon which such statement of the circulator is incomplete in any
522 respect; or (3) the page does not contain the certifications required
523 pursuant to this section, by the town clerk of the town in which the
524 signers reside. The town clerk shall cure any omission on the town
525 clerk's part by signing any such page at the office of the Secretary of
526 the State and making the necessary amendment or by filing a separate
527 statement in this regard, which amendment shall be dated.

528 (j) The Secretary of the State may approve a grant petition received
529 under this section at any time, except such approval shall be
530 withdrawn if sufficient signatures are withdrawn under section 9-453h
531 of the general statutes. Such approval by the secretary shall mean that
532 the petition contains sufficient signatures, but shall not mean that a
533 grant shall be issued. Any determination concerning an issuance of
534 such grant shall be made by the State Elections Enforcement

535 Commission in accordance with the provisions of chapter 157 of the
536 general statutes.

537 (k) Upon approval of a grant petition or a withdrawal of such
538 approval by the Secretary of the State under subsection (j) of this
539 section, the secretary shall notify, not later than twenty-four hours
540 after a determination of approval or withdrawal, the State Elections
541 Enforcement Commission of such determination. Such notification
542 shall include the number of signatures counted and deemed compliant
543 with the provisions of this section and chapter 157 of the general
544 statutes.

545 Sec. 6. Section 9-453e of the general statutes is repealed and the
546 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013, and*
547 *applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013*):

548 Each circulator of a nominating petition page or a grant petition
549 page under section 5 of this act shall be a United States citizen, at least
550 eighteen years of age and a resident of a town in this state and shall
551 not be on parole for conviction of a felony. Any individual proposed as
552 a candidate in any nominating petition may serve as circulator of the
553 pages of such nominating petition.

554 Sec. 7. Section 9-453g of the general statutes is repealed and the
555 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013, and*
556 *applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013*):

557 Any person who signs a name other than his own to a nominating
558 petition filed under sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, as amended by
559 this act, or section 9-216, or a grant petition under section 5 of this act,
560 shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not
561 more than one year or both.

562 Sec. 8. Section 9-453j of the general statutes is repealed and the
563 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013, and*
564 *applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013*):

565 Each page of a nominating petition under this part, or a grant
 566 petition under section 5 of this act, submitted to the town clerk or the
 567 Secretary of the State and filed with the Secretary of the State under the
 568 provisions of sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, as amended by this
 569 act, [or] section 9-216, or said section 5 shall contain a statement as to
 570 the residency in this state and eligibility of the circulator and
 571 authenticity of the signatures [thereon] on the petition, signed under
 572 penalties of false statement, by the person who circulated the same.
 573 Such statement shall set forth (1) such circulator's residence address,
 574 including the town in this state in which such circulator is a resident,
 575 (2) the circulator's date of birth and that the circulator is at least
 576 eighteen years of age, (3) that the circulator is a United States citizen
 577 and not on parole for conviction of a felony, and (4) that each person
 578 whose name appears on such page signed the same in person in the
 579 presence of such circulator and that either the circulator knows each
 580 such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified himself to the
 581 circulator. Any false statement committed with respect to such
 582 statement shall be deemed to have been committed in the town in
 583 which the petition was circulated.

584 Sec. 9. Section 9-453k of the general statutes is repealed and the
 585 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013, and*
 586 *applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013*):

587 (a) The town clerk or Secretary of the State shall not accept any page
 588 of a nominating petition under this part or a grant petition under
 589 section 5 of this act unless the circulator thereof has signed before him
 590 or her or an appropriate person as provided in section 1-29, the
 591 statement as to the residency in this state and eligibility of the
 592 circulator and authenticity of the signatures [thereon] on the petition
 593 required by section 9-453j, as amended by this act, or said section 5, as
 594 applicable.

595 (b) The town clerk or Secretary of the State or an appropriate person
 596 as provided in section 1-29 shall certify on each such page that the

597 circulator [thereof] of such petition signed such statement in [his] the
 598 town clerk's presence and that either [he] the town clerk knows the
 599 circulator or that the circulator satisfactorily identified himself or
 600 herself to the individual certifying.

601 (c) The town clerk or Secretary of the State shall forthwith give to
 602 each circulator submitting a page or pages of a nominating petition or
 603 grant petition a receipt indicating the number of such pages so
 604 submitted and the date upon which such pages were submitted.

605 (d) Such town clerk shall certify on each such page the date upon
 606 which it was submitted to the town clerk by the circulator or the
 607 Secretary of the State and the number of names of electors on such
 608 petition page, which names were on the registry list last-completed or
 609 are names of persons admitted as electors since the completion of such
 610 list. In the checking of signatures on such nominating or grant petition
 611 pages, the town clerk shall reject any name if such name is not the
 612 name of an elector as specified above. Such rejection shall be indicated
 613 by placing a mark in a manner prescribed by the Secretary of the State
 614 before the name so rejected. The town clerk shall not reject any name
 615 for which the street address on the petition is different from the street
 616 address on the registry list, if (1) such person is eligible to vote for the
 617 candidate or candidates named in the petition, and (2) the person's
 618 date of birth, as shown on the petition page, is the same as the date of
 619 birth on the person's registration record. Such clerk may place a check
 620 mark before each name appearing on such registry list or each name of
 621 a person admitted as an elector since the completion of such list, but
 622 shall place no other mark on such page except as provided in this
 623 section.

624 Sec. 10. Section 9-453l of the general statutes is repealed and the
 625 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013, and*
 626 *applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013*):

627 Any town clerk may delegate [his] the clerk's duty to check the
 628 names of signers with names of electors on the registry list pursuant to

629 section 9-453k, as amended by this act, to the registrars of voters in
 630 [his] the town, if the registrars consent, and the registrars shall
 631 complete the required certifications with respect thereto on [the] a
 632 nominating petition or a grant petition under section 5 of this act,
 633 provided the registrars shall execute a receipt for such pages upon
 634 receipt thereof stating the number of pages and provided such
 635 checking of names by the registrars shall take place in the office of the
 636 town clerk or in the office of the registrars of voters if they have an
 637 office. After making the required certifications, the registrars shall
 638 deliver the petition pages to the town clerk.

639 Sec. 11. Section 9-453m of the general statutes is repealed and the
 640 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013, and*
 641 *applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013*):

642 The use of titles, initials or customary abbreviations of given names
 643 by the signer of a nominating petition under this part or a grant
 644 petition under section 5 of this act shall not invalidate such signature if
 645 the identity of the signer can be readily established by reference to the
 646 signature on the petition and the name of a person as it appears on the
 647 last-completed registry list at the address indicated or of a person who
 648 has been admitted as an elector since the completion of such list.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-604(c)
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-608(f)
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-705(c)

Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-705(g)
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-453e
Sec. 7	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-453g
Sec. 8	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-453j
Sec. 9	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-453k
Sec. 10	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-453l
Sec. 11	<i>January 1, 2013, and applicable to primaries and elections held on or after January 1, 2013</i>	9-453m

Statement of Purpose:

To refine the election laws to provide for a definition of "public declaration" and for a dual process for ballot access and grant qualification under the Citizens' Election Program for minor party and petitioning candidates.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]